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Calendar of Events December 1934

Brown/RISD Community Art Project

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HARRISVILLE CIVIC CENTER

A community art project quietly and unostentatiously carried through to its completion in exactly one year from the day it was voted upon in town meeting, June 3, 1933, is now to be seen in Harrisville, Rhode Island.

The clean, white, rebuilt Universalist Church strikes the first note of warning that in itself and in close proximity to it, are to be found excellent examples of those nice proportions and simple lines which make the community architecture of New England famous.

Just beside the church on the new open and landscaped corner, where formerly stood an uninteresting brick block, is the beautiful Memorial Library to the memory of Jesse M. Smith. It is a fine, one-story structure which invites entrance at once, and then extends a truly hospitable air with its charming window vista, its soft artificial lights, and its comfortable chairs designed to woo peaceful reading and precious moments of intellectual repose.

A few rods below and toward the small lake which provides power for the textile mill lies the Harrisville Assembly, a completely equipped community auditorium happily designed for the comfort of the audience.

Back, along the short main thoroughfare, are three other buildings which carry out the same Georgian and Colonial simplicity of design. First, a plain, white, wooden structure, formerly the vats building, but now headquarters for the American Legion, Burrillville Post No. 17, with its meeting hall for the other local groups too small in number to use the older established community recreation building known as "Stillwater House."

Next to it is the Ninth District Court House, a nicely proportioned, white, government brick building. The court room, small, but adequate to meet all the needs of the community, is so well designed that it may truly reach to a column and achieve dignity seldom found in so pretentious courts.

The third or Town Building in this group, like the Library, is on another corner, its entrance facing the angle of the two streets, its plan forming two wings at right angles to each other and running parallel to the streets. Here are the town records, the treasurer's office.

The Calendar of Art Events is published regularly by the Community Art Project. Issues will be mailed monthly without charge upon request to Miss Louise Baur, Stenographic Bureau, Brown University, Providence, R. I.

The Art Events program is being held on December 7 and 8. The theme, "Contemporary Trends in American Art," will unify the Institutes of this year with next year; this is a subject of very great interest in those changing times, and one that will provide a background of thought for the Tercentenary Celebration in Rhode Island in 1936.

The calendar of December 7 will provide the following art programs:

**ART EVENTS and NOTES**

**CONTEMPORARY TRENDS IN AMERICAN ART**

**Institute of Art**

(Under the auspices of the Community Art Project)

The public is cordially invited to the following events:

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7**

**First Session**

Address by Mr. Rollo Walter Brown, Author; THE ART SPIRIT IN AMERICAN LIFE, Alumnae Hall, Pembroke College in Brown University, 10:00 A.M.

**Second Session**

Address by Mr. S. Foster Damon, Professor of English, Brown University: THE HISTORY OF THE MOTION PICTURE AS AN ART (illustrated by motion pictures), Address by Mr. Carl Louis Gregory, Motion Picture Engineer: THE TECHNIQUE OF MOTION PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHY (illustrated by motion pictures), Memorial Hall, Rhode Island School of Design, 2:00 P.M.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**

**Third Session**

Address by Mr. Rollo Walter Brown, Editor of the Magazine "Antiques": TRADITION AND THEORY IN MODERN FURNITURE (illustrated), Memorial Hall, Rhode Island School of Design, 10:00 A.M.

**Fourth Session**

Address by Mr. Rollo Walter Brown, Assistant Technical Director, Public Works Art Project; TRENDS IN AMERICAN PAINTING TODAY (illustrated), Faunce House Auditorium, Brown University, 2:00 P.M.

Exhibition of Paintings by Contemporary Iowa Artists, Faunce House Art Gallery, Brown University, 4-6 P.M.

Recital in Mobile Color, with Musical Accompaniment, by Dr. Glenn Alfred Shook, Professor of Physics, Wheaton College, Faunce House Auditorium, Brown University, 8:30 P.M.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**

Recital of Negro Exaltations and Southern Mountain Songs, by Miss Marion Kerby, Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:00 P.M.

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from the point of view of his present position in Washington.

The contributions of the Middle West to the arts of America become increasingly significant; there, in the Middle West, appears work in all of the arts that has a special quality of belonging to this country (a quality so often lacking in the more cosmopolitan productions of the East). While the exhibition of paintings by contemporary Iowa artists in Faunce House Art Gallery, Brown University, will continue through the month of December, a special occasion for seeing this exhibition is provided on the afternoon of Saturday, December 8.

One of the most interesting results of our modern feeling for motion, applied to the advances made in the science of optics, is the experiment with mobile color, played in "compositions" of shifting tones upon a screen. The art of mobile color has already proven effective as its stage setting, and has been shown alone in the Clausivus recitals of Mr. Thomas Wilfrid. This art is combined with the equally abstract art of music in the recital by Professor Shook on Sunday evening, December 8.

Folk art-forms inevitably have a vitality that gives force to the artistic expression of a people. The Negro Exaltations and the mountain songs of the South belong to the American tradition, not when they are polished for sophisticated audiences, but when they are sung as they are in the places of their origin. Miss Marion Kerby has gone to the sources for these songs; her recital shows a taste for the addressing of a singer. She will be heard at the Rhode Island School of Design on the afternoon of Sunday, December 9.

The Community Art Project announces the following lectures, prepared in the form of a written text accompanied by lantern slides: "The Life and Work of Gilbert Stuart," "Legends of Christmas Art," available after December 8. The lectures are available without charge to interested groups in Rhode Island. Applications for bookings may be made to Professor George E. Downing, Secretary, 44 Benedict Street, Providence. Other lectures are in preparation.

The assessor's office, the town clerk, and a small hall for public meetings of the Town Council, in this hall is the decorative Burrillville map, showing Harrisville and its surroundings, designed and executed by William H. Duiry of Newport.

Two other buildings should be noted: a grocery store whose two large windows extending from floor to ceiling, and divided into small panes suggest an early type of shop used in the colonies when England's influence was dominant; and a white, gable-roofed shop, a most natural place for the local beauty parlor, with a small paneled bay window built by the local craftsmen.

These eight buildings, all in keeping with some of the older dwellings, form a Civic Center of unusual charm. Judicious planting and transplanting, walls, consciously designed vistas, wisely selected color schemes, simple but comfortable furnishings, all contribute to an artistic atmosphere that is actually being lived in and that is a living community force.

Mr. and Mrs. Austin T. Levy saw the vision. They and our Providence architect, Mr. Jackson, Robertson, and Adams, gave it practical application, and the men and women of the community, recognizing the value of such a community center, voted the lives of their children, voted to give their support to it.

A short drive through Chepachet and thence to Harrisville, now, when the trees are bare, should prove a future visit when the spring foliage is bursting forth. For now may be seen the unadorned setting, the environment in which this civic beauty is being developed. Then, later, a deeper appreciation of the significance of such an art venture will be felt: the true value of this practical and esthetic program will be better understood.

The most reasonably we are apt to look for art only in exclusive places in our large cities. Nature, of course, we expect to observe in the country. But here are to be found a number indissolubly into a community fabric which involves the very web and woof of the life of every person in the town. It is an example of the practical value of combining art with community needs under a single comprehensive plan, ably devised and simply and beautifully produced.

ROYAL B. PARNUM
**CALENDAR**

(All events listed are open to the public)

**Saturday, December 8**
Institute of Art, under the auspices of the Community Art Project. ([Program on inside page](#))
Broadcast WBEZ Boston, "The Impact of Modern Art," in the series "Art in America," under the auspices of the American Federation of Arts, 8:00 P.M.

**Sunday, December 9**
Institute of Art, under the auspices of the Community Art Project. ([Program on inside page](#))

**Friday, December 14**
*Komians* present "Mädchen in Uniform." Alumnae Hall, Pembroke College, 8:30 P.M.

**Saturday, December 15**
Broadcast WBEZ Boston, "The Contemporary American World in Painting," lecture in the series "Art in America," under the auspices of the American Federation of Arts, 8:00 P.M.
*Komians* present "Mädchen in Uniform." Alumnae Hall, Pembroke College, 8:30 P.M.

**Sunday, December 16**
Sunday Gallery Talk, "The Art of Making Japanese Prints," by Mr. Williambury, Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:30 P.M.
Concert by the Oratorio Society, the first part of Handel's "Messiah," Elmwood Congregational Church, 4:00 P.M.

**Monday, December 17**
*Sock and Buskin* present "Maitre Patelin," "Bombastus Furioso," and "They Refuse to be Resurrected," farces from three periods of theatrical history. Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P.M.

**Tuesday, December 18**
*Sock and Buskin* present "Maitre Patelin," "Bombastus Furioso," and "They Refuse to be Resurrected," farces from three periods of theatrical history. Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P.M.

**Wednesday, December 19**
*Sock and Buskin* present "Maitre Patelin," "Bombastus Furioso," and "They Refuse to be Resurrected," farces from three periods of theatrical history. Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P.M.

**Saturday, December 22**
Broadcast WBEZ Boston, "The Modern Room," lecture in the series "Art in America," under the auspices of the American Federation of Arts, 8:00 P.M.

**Sunday, December 23**
Concert by the Oratorio Society, the second part of Handel's "Messiah." Elmwood Congregational Church, 4:00 P.M.

**Saturday, December 29**
Broadcast WBEZ Boston, "The Modern House," lecture in the series "Art in America," under the auspices of the American Federation of Arts, 8:00 P.M.

**Sunday, December 30**
Sunday Gallery Talk, "The Art of the Maya People," by Miss Miriam Banks, Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:30 P.M.

*Admission charged.*

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**EXHIBITIONS IN PROVIDENCE**

Special Exhibitions for Art Week (December 3-8)

- **Arcade Building, Westminster Street**
  First annual art exhibition for Non-professionals, arranged by the Quinsicket painters under the auspices of Leisure Time Activities.
- **Center of American Home Makers, 81 North Main Street**
  Exhibition of paintings and drawings.
- **Federal Hill House, 400 Atwells Avenue (December 6, 7:00-10:00 P.M.)**
  Exhibition of Federal Hill House industries.
- **Handicraft Club (2:00-4:00 P.M.)**
  Place Music Company Exhibition of violins and music manuscripts by Charles H. Mathewson.
- **Providence Public Library**
  Exhibition of art books, periodicals and books on colonial architecture.
- **Faunce House Art Gallery, Brown University**
  Dec. 3-22—Paintings by contemporary Iowa artists.
- **John Hay Library, Brown University**
  Dec. 1-31—Portraits of Lincoln in books.
  Dec. 1-31—Engravings by John Sartain.
- **Musk-Murray Studios**
  Dec. 15-31—Block-prints by Frances Gearhart.
- **Plantsion Club (2:00-5:00 P.M.)**
  Dec. 12—Wood-block prints by Mrs. Grace Albee.
- **Providence Art Club**
  Nov. 20-Dec. 2—Work by Eugene Kingman.
  Dec. 4-23—Little Picture Exhibition.
- **Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design**
  Dec. 1-10—Firday Anniversary exhibition.
  An important exhibition will be announced later.
- **School Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design**
  Nov. 26-Dec. 8—Stumberger's display of textiles and designs.
  Dec. 10-22—Display of compositions from Mr. Sisson's classes.
- **Tilden-Thurber Gallery**
- **Nathaniel M. Vose Gallery**
  Dec. 3-16—Exhibition of restored paintings and frame construction.
  Dec. 17-31—Water-colors by John Cook.
EXHIBITIONS OUTSIDE OF PROVIDENCE

**Gallery of Fine Arts, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.**
Dec. 3-17—Water-colors by Wayland Wells Williams.

**Lyman Allyn Museum, New London, Conn.**
Dec. 1-17—Grant Central Galleries exhibition.  
Dec. 25-Jan. 15—Hitchcock photographs of Romanesque Style.

**Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass.**
Dec. 3-31—Stencil reproductions of Renaissance textiles by John S. Sargent (lent by Thomas Fox, Esquire).  
Dec. 3-31—Photographs of nineteenth century houses by Walker Evans.

**Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass.**

**The Guild of Boston Artists, 162 Newbury Street, Boston, Mass.**
Dec. 1-8—Sculpture by Hazel Jackson.  

**Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.**
Dec. 5-31—Water-colors by Sheeler, Burchfield, Hopper.  
Dec. 6-22—Special loan exhibition of 19th century French drawings.  
Dec. 1-31—Persian miniatures, pottery, and textiles.

**Germanic Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.**
Dec. 1-10—German painting of the 15th and 16th centuries (in reproduction).  
Dec. 3-22—International advertising posters.

**Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, Mass.**
Dec. 1-9—Portraits and early landscapes by Corot.  

**The Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, Mass.**
Dec. 5-30—Work by Business Men's Art Association of Berkshire Museum.

**Springfield Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, Mass.**
Dec. 4-31—Italian 18th century painting.  
Dec. 1-31—Woodcuts by Professor Albers.  
Dec. 1-31—The art of Walt Disney.

**Wellesley College Art Museum, Wellesley, Mass.**
Dec. 1-20—Water-colors by Martha S. Bacon.

**Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, Mass.**
Dec. 4-30—13th International water-color exhibition.  
Dec. 8-30—Toiles de Jouy (collection of Elinor Merrell).  

**The Museum of Modern Art, New York City**

**The Art Association of Newport.**
Dec. 1-31—Exhibition by Professional Artist Members of the Association.